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Labour Appellate Tribunal. The workers have disputed the amount so paid. The Labour Officer has, therefore, been asked to verify the claim petitions of the workers The Government are awaiting the final report of the Commissioner of Labour.

The management and workers of the Mahaganapathy Spinning Mills have since agreed to settle the claims of the workers under the award by direct negotiation.

* 2678 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Ganapathi Mills, Pudukkottai, has appealed against the Special Industrial Tribunal's award in respect of compensation for involuntary unemployment due to electricity shortage?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : No, Sir.

* 2679 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether any award given by the Special Tribunal constituted under Sri Srinivasan for giving compensation for the period of involuntary unemployment due to current cut during 1952 and 1953 was implemented in the textile mills of the State?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Yes, Sir. Thirty-two mills have implemented the award in full as on 5th August 1955.

Repairs to a bridge on Kozhikode-Ootacamund road

* 2680 *Q.*—SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any proposal to carry out repairs to the bridge at mile 47/5 on Kozhikode-Ootacamund road has been sanctioned; and

(*b*) if so, when the Government propose to execute the work and the estimated cost thereof?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : (*a*) & (*b*) The Member presumably refers to the bridge across the Karimpuzha river at mile 47/6 of the Kozhikode-Nilambur road. The work of strengthening this bridge was sanctioned by the Government in April 1950. But subsequently on inspection it was found necessary to reconstruct the bridge to suit present-day traffic. The proposal for reconstruction of the bridge is under the active consideration of the Highways Department.

SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE : May I know, Sir, whether any estimate has been prepared and whether any orders have been issued by the Government to take up the work in the immediate future?

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THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : The Chief Engineer has stated that an estimate for Rs. 3·5 lakhs has been received from the Superintending Engineer, that it is under scrutiny in his office and that the Government will be addressed soon for fresh administrative approval. This is being awaited.

Minimum bus-fare in the mufassal

* 2681 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state whether the Government have passed orders on the question of the minimum fare of five annas in the mufassal as assured on 21st March 1955 in the course of the debate on the Demand for Grant under "Road Transport Schemes—Working expenses"?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : The question was considered at the last meeting of the State Transport Advisory Committee held on 15th July 1955 and it was decided to discuss the subject at the next meeting of the committee.

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Sir, the Hon. Minister said at one time that Members will have an encouraging news before they left for their places. But I still wonder why even after a meeting, a matter which was raised on the floor of this House long long ago is still awaiting further decision?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : Sir, it has to be decided by the Transport Advisory Committee. It is a matter which affects not only the interests of the operators but also others concerned in this State and therefore careful attention has to be paid to this matter.

Construction of a road in Ponnani taluk

* 2682 *Q.*—SRI E. T. KUNHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation, dated 31st July 1953, from Sri E. T. Kunhan, M.L.A., regarding the construction of a road from Elavalli to Chittalukara in Ponnani taluk ; and

(*b*) if so the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMI PADAYACHI : (*a*) & (*b*) A letter, dated 22nd/23rd July 1953, and not 31st July 1952 was received and it was forwarded to the Chief Engineer (Highways) for necessary action. The Chief Engineer has reported that, as the work falls outside the scope of Post-War Road Development plan, he has requested the Malabar District Board to take further action in the matter. It is for the district board or the panchayats concerned to take up the work.